In the Specification:

Please add the following two new paragraphs after the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 30 and ending on page 3, line 2:

Yet another embodiment of the present invention is a method of splicing a stream of a commercial time slot into a network time slot of an incoming network stream, where the commercial time slot and network time slot each have an in-point and an out-point and a duration. The method includes the steps of (i) multiplexing the commercial stream into the network stream such that the commercial slot in-point is aligned with the network slot out-point, (ii) during the commercial stream, adjusting the vbv_delays of that stream such that the duration of the commercial stream has a maximum duration that is longer than the duration of the network time slot, where any difference in durations is equal to a network feed extra; (iii) at the network stream in-point, multiplexing any remaining portion of the commercial stream at a higher stream rate, and storing any network feed extra, and (iv) at the commercial stream out-point, multiplexing any stored network feed extra into the network stream while adjusting the vbv_delays of the stored network feed extra until the vbv_delays in the network feed extra match that in the incoming network feed.

Yet another embodiment of the present invention is a method that includes the steps of (i) multiplexing the commercial stream into the network stream such that the commercial slot in-point is aligned with the network slot out-point, (ii) while multiplexing the commercial stream into the network stream, computing an expected completion time of the network time slot by monitoring the network feed, and adjusting the vbv_delays of the commercial stream such that the duration of the commercial stream has a minimum duration that is shorter than the duration of the network time slot, (iii) between a prescribed point prior to the out-point of the commercial time slot and the out-point of the commercial time slot, multiplexing the remaining portion of the commercial stream at a slower stream rate by adjusting the vbv_delays to meet the expected completion time, and (iv) at the network in-point, multiplexing the incoming network feed into the network stream.